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General Assembly
Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 164
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 26 March 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to a heinous act of terrorism perpetrated today by Palestinian terrorists in the city of Hebron.

In the afternoon hours, gunmen from the Palestinian-controlled village of Abu Sanina fired shots at a playground in a Jewish neighbourhood of Hebron. In the course of the gunfire, a 10-month-old baby, Shalhevet Pas, was shot and killed. Her father was shot and wounded in the thigh and her 15-year-old brother was moderately wounded; both were evacuated to a hospital in Jerusalem.

Today's murder, which comes amidst numerous calls for escalation by Palestinian leaders in the light of this week's Arab Summit in Amman, is the latest in a rising tide of Palestinian terrorism that has claimed the lives of 68 Israelis over the past six months. These attacks have been detailed in a series of letters addressed to you, dated 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

The Government of Israel holds the Palestinian Authority responsible for today's murder in the light of its continuing unwillingness to take concrete action against terrorist organizations operating in its territory. The Palestinian leadership also continues to actively encourage the commission of violent attacks against Israelis. Just today, Chairman Yassir Arafat, speaking to leaders of the uprising in Ramallah, told his people to prepare for another hundred days of conflict. West Bank Fatah leader Marwan Barghouti echoed Chairman Arafat's words by saying that Palestinians would escalate the intifada in coming days. These statements run counter to signed agreements between Israel and the Palestinian Authority as well as to accepted norms of conduct.

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Israel reiterates that peace can only come to the Middle East once there is a firm and resolute commitment to combat terrorism and violence and a restoration of calm and security. Israel calls once again on Chairman Arafat to fulfil his commitment of 9 September 1993, to renounce all acts of terrorism and to promote an environment conducive to peaceful negotiations.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 164, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/55/859

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 120

Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Eduardo Manuel da Fonseca Fernandes **Ramos** (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 44th, 46th and 50th meetings, on 13, 15 and 22 March 2001. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/55/SR.44, 46 and 50).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a statistical report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the budgetary and financial situation of organizations of the United Nations system (A/55/525).

II. Consideration of draft decision A/C.5/55/L.41

4. At its 50th meeting, on 22 March, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Statistical report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the budgetary and financial situation of organizations of the United Nations system" (A/C.5/55/L.41) submitted by the Chairman.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/55/L.41 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Statistical report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the budgetary and financial situation of organizations of the United Nations system

The General Assembly takes note of the statistical report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the budgetary and financial situation of organizations of the United Nations system.[1]

[1] A/55/525.

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Letter dated 27 March 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to two incidents of Palestinian terrorism that occurred today in the city of Jerusalem.

At approximately 7.40 a.m. local time, at the height of the morning rush hour, a car bomb was detonated near a shopping mall in the southern Jerusalem neighbourhood of Talpiot. Seven people were wounded in the bombing, which also caused damage to nearby stores and to a passing public bus.

The second bombing occurred at approximately 1.30 p.m. in the northern Jerusalem neighbourhood of French Hill. A Palestinian suicide bomber, with explosives strapped to his body, blew himself up at a traffic intersection as a public bus filled with students passed by. The explosion killed one person and injured 31 others, one critically.

The terrorist organization Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for both attacks in a statement released to the Qatari TV station *Al-Jazeera*.

The Jerusalem bombings come less than a day after a sniper from the Palestinian-controlled area of Abu Sanina shot and killed Shalhevet Tehiya Pass, a 10-month-old girl, as the baby rested in her parents' arms. The telescopic rifle, which was used to target the child's head, is a weapon that is generally available only to members of the Palestinian security forces. The sniper also shot and wounded the child's father Yitzhak, age 24, in the chest and leg.

Yesterday's murder and the two bombings in Jerusalem represent a serious escalation of the ongoing campaign of Palestinian terrorism directed against innocent unarmed Israeli citizens. Previous attacks have been detailed in a series of letters addressed to you, dated 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252),

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22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

It must also be noted that these attacks occurred at a time when Israel is acting to relax restrictions on the Palestinian civilian population. This policy, taken to ease the hardships of Palestinian not engaged in violence, has been met with a sharp increase in terrorist activity.

The Government of Israel holds the Palestinian Authority responsible for the murder of Shalhevet Pass and the two Jerusalem bombings in the light of its release of convicted terrorist prisoners from Palestinian prisons, its persistent refusal to engage in serious security cooperation with Israel and its failure to act resolutely to combat terrorist elements operating from within the territory under its control. The stance of the Palestinian leadership blatantly contravenes Chairman Arafat's explicit commitment to renounce the use of violence and to act to control those who perpetrate it.

Israel again calls on Chairman Arafat to abide by his commitments, to take concerted action against terrorist elements and to work to ensure that such atrocities do not recur in the future. The international community must speak in one voice of clear condemnation of such brutal and loathsome acts. Peace is impossible when civilians, let alone innocent babies, are considered fair targets.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 164, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative